Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin NOVEMBER 2007

Volume 60 | N°. 3 | Cheshvan/Kislev 5768

# Come to our Book Fair and Chanukah Boutique November 5-8

See Page 5 for details

# Muslims and Jews lived peaceably at the foot of the Temple Mount.

# The Holy City

he time must come when Israel is going to be forced into negotiations over the future of Jerusalem, and, while I hope no Jew would ever want to surrender the city to another nation, there are some facts of which we should be aware.

The city itself is already divided, for even without the obvious Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Armenian quarters, many parts of the area are wholly populated by Arabs with no Jew either working or living there.

Our Orthodox friends, especially the rabid nationalist elements, should be reminded that the pious prayer of our Prophets was that Jerusalem would be a religious center for all peoples. Indeed, in the messianic age the nations would share with us the joys of Sukkot and prayer in a rebuilt Temple. Each day we recite prayers asking for a return to Jerusalem, but that return was obviously tied to the re-establishment of the Davidic dynasty, which would usher in this time of shared city!



As the Biblical scholar, Karen Armstrong, has pointed out, Jews were rather happy when the Muslims captured Jerusalem from the Crusaders in the year 637. At that time the Caliph Umar was horrified to discover that the area of the Jewish Temple destroyed by the Romans in the year 70 C.E. had been made into a garbage dump by the Christians to symbolize the defeat of Judaism. Umar and his soldiers hastened to clean away the rubble.

The Jews of the time hailed the Caliph as a precursor of the Messiah because of his love and respect for their Holy Place. Jews were invited

to return to Jerusalem and Muslims and Jews lived peaceably at the foot of the Temple Mount.

And so what does all this mean? Well, it probably means that if our tradition teaches that other beliefs will be allowed into Jerusalem, and even to worship in our rebuilt Temple, the least we can do to help bring the Messiah and peace is to let Palestinians fly a flag over a building and to have a borough of their own.

OPEN CALL

## **Purim Spiel**

**Thursday night, March 20, 2008,** we are going to rekindle the tradition of performing a Purim Spiel, a musical production based on the story of Purim, at Park Avenue Synagogue. Sign up sheets and information will be available on Mitzvah Day, Sunday, November 18th. Any actors, musicians, singers, dancers, costume and scenery designers and builders and anyone willing to lend a hand with painting or sewing, please contact us. Anyone who is interested in helping us create an original production should get involved. We would love to have members, staff and faculty participate. Older children are also welcome. This is a great opportunity to interact with members of our community in a new and different way! Mandatory rehearsals will begin in January.

**Please contact** Cantor Abramson at the Synagogue 212-369-2600 at ext.125 or send her an e-mail at nabramson@pasyn.org if you want to be part of this wonderful experience. Everyone is welcome.

# It is a truly important time in our Synagogue's history.

ith the holidays behind us, it is now time to turn our attention back to our search for a new Senior Rabbi. Over the last few months, the Committee has met to review the application submitted to the Rabbinical Assembly and to create a list of questions that we will ask each candidate. Both the application and the questions reflect the priorities of the congregation as expressed in the sessions held in the Spring of 2006, letters written to the committee, and discussions held with congregants and members of the committee.

I am confident that the candidate selected by the committee and recommended to the board will best fit the collective needs of our congregation as articulated through this process.

We will be interviewing candidates in November, December and January. As we become more seriously interested in a Rabbi, members of the committee will visit the finalists' home



congregations and the finalists will each spend a weekend with us. We will create time here to allow for access to the candidates in a variety of settings.

As you may recall, each congregant has been given a contact on the Rabbinic Search Committee based on your last name. I would request that each of you express your views to your representative. I have listed below the name and contact vehicle for each member of the committee.

If all goes well, the committee will extend an offer sometime in early 2008. Having worked

with this committee, chaired by Geoffrey Colvin, for a little over a year, I have every confidence that the diligence, thoughtfulness and caring that each of them has for the future of our Congregation will assure us that we will have the right Rabbi for the position.

It is a truly important time in our Synagogue's history.

#### **Rabbinic Search Committee Contact List**

First Letter of Your Last Name	Your Contact Throughout the Search Process:
A - E	Brian Lustbader
	work 212-686-7700   e-mail blustbader@mcrlawfirm.com
F - J	Steve Friedman
_	e-mail sfriedman@eospartners.com
K - O	Rachael First
	e-mail rs1st@aol.com
P - U	Roger Einiger
	e-mail einiger@hardscrabbleassoc.com
<b>V</b> - <b>Z</b>	Joanne Davis
	home 212-861-7842   e-mail jvmmdavis@nyc.rr.com

Any member may also contact:

Geoffrey Colvin

e-mail gc@cewpartners.com

**Amy Bressman** e-mail aandbnyc@gmail.com

Menachem Rosensaft

home 212-988-5991 | e-mail mzrosensaft@yahoo.com

Mincha Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm. Saturday Mincha is at 6:00 pm, except as noted.

Daily Minyanim. Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am, except as noted.

Friday, November 2 21 Cheshvan

Light Candles: 5:34 pm 5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 7:15 pm Minyan Maalot

Saturday, November 3 22 Cheshvan

Parashat Chayei Sara
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Schecter,
Son of Marcia and Ronald Schecter
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Friday, November 9 28 Cheshvan

Light Candles: 4:26 pm **Kristallnacht Remembrance** 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service **Children's Birthday Service** 

Saturday, November 10 29 Cheshvan

Parashat Toldos
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Wisch,
Daughter of Debi and Steven Wisch
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 11 1 Kislev

Rosh Chodesh Kislev

**Thursday, November 15** 5 Kislev 7:30 pm Healing Service

**Friday, November 16** 6 Kislev Light Candles: 4:20 pm

6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath

Saturday, November 17 7 Kislev

Parashat Vayetzei
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
B'nai Mitzvah of Ella and Noah Landesberg,
Children of Amy and David Landesberg
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha
5:30 pm Pajama Havdalah Service

**Sunday, November 18** 8 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

**Monday, November 19** 9 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

**Tuesday, November 20** 10 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

Wednesday, November 21 11 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

Friday, November 23 13 Kislev

Light Candles: 4:15 pm 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service Welcome Back College Students

Saturday, November 24 14 Kislev

Parashat Vayishlach
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Annabel Monsky,
Daughter of Jennifer and John Monsky
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 25 15 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin Sofer with College Students

**Friday, November 30** 20 Kislev Light Candles: 4:12 pm 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

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#### Park Avenue Synagogue Happenings

# **Book Fair and Chanukah Boutique**

This year, our Book Fair will take place from **November 5 to 8**. Everyone will have lots of choices for serious and leisure reading, for gift giving, and for listening, learning, and discussing books and ideas. We will have a wonderful selection of choice books, new books, classic books; as well as Judaica. Stock up for Chanukah and for the long winter. Mark your calendars and come to the special events we have scheduled. Join us!

**Tuesday November 6 at 7:00 pm,** the amazing and inspirational **Ruth Gruber will speak** to us. The author of 19 books, including "Witness," published this year, Ruth Gruber, now aged 95, has been described as "a force of nature and living history."

Born in Brooklyn in 1912, she graduated from New York University in 3 years, received her Master's from the University of Wisconsin a year later, and a Ph.D from the University of Cologne (magna cum laude) a year after that; becoming at age 19, the youngest Ph.D. in the world.

As a journalist and photographer she participated in many of the 20th century's major events:



She was the first journalist to go to the Siberian Gulag and photograph the new cities being built by pioneers and prisoners whom Stalin didn't execute.

In 1943, Harold Ickes, FDR's Secretary of the Interior, sent her on a mission to study Alaska as a homesteading site for G.I.'s.

Her top secret assignment for FDR, where she

accompanied 1,000 refugees to America—the only Jewish refugees allowed in this country—and brought them to Fort Ontario, Oswego, NY (this part of her life was made into a CBS mini-series with Natasha Richardson as Ruth and was the subject of her book "Haven").

She witnessed the American lend lease boat, renamed Exodus 1947, try to deliver 4,500 Jewish refugees—including 600 orphans—to Israel when it was attacked by 5 British destroyers and a cruiser; She watched the British storm the ship when it entered the Haifa harbor and saw the crew fight back with potatoes, sticks and cans of kosher meat. Gruber stayed with the Exodus prisoners when the British sent them back to Germany aboard the prison ship Runnymede Park. Her account of those events—"Exodus 1947"—was published in 1948 and was used by Leon Uris to write his best-selling novel "Exodus." Uris said he could not have written the novel without Gruber's book. Otto Preminger said that if he had read Ruth Gruber's "Exodus 1947," he never would have bought Uris's book to make his movie.

Wednesday, November 7 at 7:00 pm, the Men's Club will sponsor an author reading and book signing program, featuring the award winning poet and professor: Dr. Charles Adés Fishman. Four poems by Menachem Rosensaft are included in the new second edition of "Blood to Remember: American Poets on the Holocaust" edited by Charles Adés Fishman (see page 8 for details).

# Welcome Home College Students | Friday, November 23

Our annual Welcome Back to College Students event will take place during Thanksgiving break on Friday, November 23. We have scheduled a special opportunity for college students to inscribe the Torah and meet Rabbi Druin on November 25.

#### Park Avenue Synagogue Happenings continued



# The Rothschild Library Perpetual International Film Festival presents

The 1920 horror classic,

#### "The Golem"

Wednesday, November 14
7:00 pm | No charge
A powerful, dreamlike film, "The
Golem" is a dark concoction from
Jewish mysticism, fairy tale, and
history.

The story is set in 16th century Prague where Jews are facing rising oppression and the possibility of expulsion. A courageous mystic named Rabbi Loew receives a fiery vision and learns how to create the Golem, an amoral creature who will soon turn against him.

Highly influenced by German Expressionism, "The Golem" offers a wide prescient vision of horrors to come, both imagined and real. Frankenstein seems to grow out of this portrait of evil personified, the Holocaust out of this depiction of anti-Semitic Poland.

Moreover, a critical concern is raised regarding the use of amoral or immoral allies in the eternal search for Jewish safety that may have saliency today. While this is certainly a film for film buffs and horror fans, this is also a film for thoughtful viewers who enjoy making connections artistically and historically.

Always Free and Always at the Rothschild.



### **Forging Your Link**

Sunday, November 18 | Monday, November 19 | Tuesday, November 20 Wednesday, November 21 | Sunday, November 24

Many P.A.S. families have already completed the 613th mitzvah, inscribing a letter in the Torah.

This is the last time the that the *sofer* will be here. Only a few more opportunities remain for those who have not yet not yet inscribed their letters. Appointments are going fast! Most Sundays and weekday evening time-slots are fully booked. Please call or e-mail now to schedule your appointment!

**Contact** Heidi Silverstone at heidi@pasyn.org to set up your appointment. If you do not have access to e-mail, please call 212-369-2600.

ABOUT THE TORAH PROJECT:

Torah has linked the Jewish people for millennia.

For 3,000 years the written Torah has been in the hearts and minds of the Jewish people and has allowed all Jews access to the word of God. It is the single unifying symbol to us in times of triumph and sorrow. We at Park Avenue Synagogue have chosen to undertake the 613th Mitzvah—inscribing a new Torah. Participate in this Mitzvah—an act of Jewish continuity. Our new Sefer Torah will be read by our children, our children's children, and all generations to follow.

# Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day

#### Sunday, November 18 | 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Join the Park Avenue Synagogue community in celebrating Mitzvah Day. Bring your family and friends to perform good deeds to benefit those in need.

As always, there will be lots of fun activities for all ages, 1 to 100: insightful discussions with our clergy, off-site visits, arts and crafts, food collection, sandwich making and packaging, and numerous programs appearing for the first time. We will offer our annual blood drive and of course, the children will bake fresh cookies for donors. This year, there will be an extra emphasis placed on the environment, with ecologically attentive programs.

Funds raised will go towards the Park Avenue Synagogue Israel Fund, and will be allocated towards programs in Israel when our congregation visits in December.

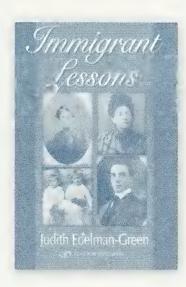
As in the past we will be collecting goods to donate to charitable organizations as well as organizing the Parents' Association Flea Market. Please bring in:

- men's, women's and children's clothing, coats, and accessories
- sporting goods, cell phones, eyeglasses, costume jewelry, CDs, videos, and books
- canned and dry food

Donations will be accepted all day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday November 14, 15, and 16, and on Mitzvah Day until 2:00 pm.

**If you're interested in helping** prior to or during this event, please contact: Julie Ruvkun at 212-737-7911, e-mail: jg2065@Columbia.edu or Nancy Dolinsky at 212-988-2169, e-mail: wnancyd@nyc.rr.com





## **Immigrant Lessons from Israel**

**Tuesday, November 13** | **7:00 pm** | *No charge*Judith Edelman Green joins us from Israel to share her perspective on life in Israel in the 21st century—don't miss this acclaimed author.

JUDITH EDELMAN-GREEN grew up in Wisconsin. In 2002 she was awarded the Woman of Distinction Award by the Women's League and in 2003 the Liebhaber Prize for the Promotion of Religious Tolerance and Cultural Pluralism for her work with children with special needs. She lives in Israel with her husband and three children.

Her book, "Immigrant Lessons" is the story of two women, 40 years apart, crossing the sea to their promised land—one fleeing Hitler, the other pursuing her spirituality —and finding gain as well as loss in the transition. With candor and insight, this book explores in rich color the rewards and challenges of immigration and family relationships. Part memoir, part lyrical prose poem, this is a tale of dislocation and change, enrichment, growth, and survival.



# Kabbalat Shabbat: "Welcoming the Sabbath" Service

Friday, November 16 6:15 pm

Enhanced Friday Evening Service with special musical accompaniment, to encourage deeper awareness and response as we welcome the Sabbath as a community.



## Pour out your heart; Pour out your soul

Our newest liturgical offering, a monthly Healing Service, will be conducted on **Thursday, November 15 at 7:30 pm.** This brief and intimate service is specifically designed for those with cares to unburden, hopes and yearnings to express. It is meant to be a vehicle for expressing concerns of a personal nature (or your concern for someone else)--whatever is on your mind and in your heart. We hope that the inspiration and strength you will receive from participating in this service will lead to restoration of body and soul. (*r'fu'at ha'nefesh*, *u'r'fu'at ha'guf*). THE SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE APPELMAN CHAPEL.

**For further information,** please call Rabbi Kenneth Stern with your questions, 212-369-2600, ext. 123.



#### **Israel Orientation**

Tuesdays, November 20 and 27 7:00-9:00 pm

For participants in our Congregational Trip to Israel. One adult member of each family going on our trip must attend one of these sessions. Details have been sent to you in the mail.

For further information, call Sarah Gribetz at ext. 142

#### P.A.S. Men's Club Receives Two Silver Level Torch Awards

The Park Avenue Synagogue Men's Club was recognized with two Silver Level Torch Awards for Overall Programming and its programs in support of Israel and Masorti at the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs International Convention in Chicago this past July. The awards are based on activities over the past two years of affiliated clubs from all over the world. Les Agisim, Chairman Emeritus, received the award on behalf of P.A.S.

#### Best Overall Activities

The Men's Club works to provide a variety of activities appealing to the wide variety of ages and interests in our chapter.

- To support P.A.S. programs and goals
- To promote fellowship among members and encourage new members to participate
- To raise Tzedakah for worthy causes
- To interact and cooperate with other synagogue groups
- To create a variety of programs—religious, social and educational

Club leaders, Co-Presidents Dennis Karr and Steven Weinfeld will be happy to provide more information to anyone interested in learning more about Men's Club and encourage all men of P.A.S. to join. Many of the club's activities are open to all.

#### Men's Club

#### Book Fair Program | Wednesday, November 7 | 7:00 pm

In conjunction with the P.A.S. Book Fair, the Men's Club is sponsoring an author reading and book signing program, featuring the award winning poet and professor Dr. Charles Adés Fishman, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of the State University of New York. Meaningfully, this program will take place two days prior to Kristallnacht.

He will read from the newly released book that he edited—"Blood to Remember: American Poets on the Holocaust" (2007) (which includes several poems by P.A.S. President Menachem Rosensaft) and from his own recent collections of poetry—"Country of Memory" and "5,000 Bells" (2004), and "Chopin's Piano" (2006).

All members of the Synagogue and their guests are invited. The books will be available for purchase and signing.

#### Men's Club

#### Hearing Men's Voices | Wednesday, November 14 | 8:00 pm | ©

This program within the Men's Club provides small groups of men a setting to talk with each other about common life issues in a relaxed, confidential, facilitated setting.

#### **Singles Group**

"Sipping Singles" for P.A.S. Boomers and Y Gen folks 35+ | Wednesday, November 28 | 6:30-8:30 pm

Wine tasting and accompanying refreshments at Park Avenue Synagogue.

For more information, contact Vera Sullivan, at vsullivan@sivintobin.com

#### Sisterhood

# Daytime Book Discussion Group | Monday, November 5 | 11:00 am | Rothschild Library

Join us for a discussion of "My Michael," by the Israeli writer Amos Oz. Coffee and cake will be served. If you would like the reading list and schedule for this group, please call Dr. Renee Waldinger at 212-860-4308. Membership is open to everyone in P.A.S.

# WIE SEED FOR THE SEED TO SEED

#### Sisterhood

## Visit to the Jewish Daily Forward Exhibition | Thursday, November 8 | 1:00 pm

Museum of the City of New York | \$ ©

Between 1881 and 1918, some 2,000,000 Yiddish-speaking Jews came to the United States from Eastern Europe. The Jewish Daily Forward, which was founded in 1897, served this community and became an important part of its life. Join Sisterhood for a guided tour of "The Jewish Daily Forward: Embracing an Immigrant Community" at the Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Avenue and 104th Street. This exhibition provides a fascinating look at the Forward and its readers—their self-help associations, unions, politics, entertainment, literature, summer resorts and camps, and much more. All members of P.A.S. are invited.

Please RSVP to Helene Agress at 212-362-1233 by November 6. The cost is \$6.00/person. Meet the Sisterhood group in the museum lobby at 12:45 pm.

#### Sisterhood

Visit to Isaac Bashevis Singer Exhibition | Monday, November 12 | 1:00 pm | Jewish Museum | \$ © Join Sisterhood for a guided tour of "Isaac Bashevis Singer and the Lower East Side: Photographs by Bruce Davidson" at the Jewish Museum, Fifth Avenue and 92nd Street. Singer was closely associated with two neighborhoods in New York: the Upper West Side, where he lived; and the Lower East Side, where he worked as a journalist at the Jewish Daily Forward for many years. On the Lower East Side, Singer mixed with many other Jewish émigrés and intellectuals. Bruce Davidson, a photographer for Life magazine, recorded striking images of Singer in the now-vanished world of the Lower East Side. All members of P.A.S. are welcome to take this tour. Please RSVP to Helene Agress at 212-362-1233 by November 7. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Meet the Sisterhood group in the lobby of the museum at 12:45 pm. (As a follow-up to this tour, be sure to see the film "Isaac Bashevis Singer: Champion of Jewish Literature," which will be shown at P.A.S. on Thursday, November 13 at 1:00 pm.)

#### Sisterhood Yiddish Club

## Film About Isaac Bashevis Singer

Tuesday, November 13 | 1:00 pm | Rothschild Library | No charge

In 1978, Isaac Bashevis Singer won the Nobel Prize for literature. This was a wonderful achievement for Singer and a significant milestone for the Yiddish language. To celebrate Jewish Book Month, which takes place during November, the Yiddish Club will view and discuss the film "Isaac Bashevis Singer: Champion of Yiddish Literature." In this lovely film, Singer speaks about his life in Poland and the United States, his views about religion, his approach to writing, and his devotion to the Yiddish language. The film is illustrated with photographs by Roman Vishniac and artwork by Maurice Sendak. Also included are interviews with writer Cynthia Ozick, editor Simon Weber, and illustrator Irene Lieblich. This film is in English, and the discussion will be in English. All members of P.A.S. are welcome to join us. Coffee and cake will be served.

#### Sisterhood

# Film about the Early History of the Jews of the United States

Tuesday, November 20 | 1:00 pm | No charge

The Jewish community of the United States started modestly in 1654 with the arrival of 23 Brazilian Jews to the Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam. These Jews were initially rejected by the Governor of New Amsterdam, but were allowed to stay by the leaders of the Dutch East India Company in Holland.

From this small and uncertain beginning, the Jewish community grew and flourished during the colonial and revolutionary periods. The Sisterhood cordially invites everyone to view the beautiful documentary film "Present at the Creation: The Jews in the United States, 1654 to 1820." This film shows how Jews adapted, survived, and helped our country. Yet it also shows the problems these people experienced in trying to maintain their Jewish identity. A light lunch will be provided.



## Jordan Schecter | November 3

Jordan started in our Congregational School. He is a Seventh Grader at the Heschel School, which he has attended since second grade. Those who know Jordy know he is a caring, kind, and considerate friend.

He is a big "sports guy." Aside from being on the JCC swim team in years past, Jordan enjoys playing soccer, baseball, and basketball. All of these activities have been a big part of his summers at Camp Winaukee and Camp Echo Lake.

Jordan's Bar Mitzvah *parashat* is *Chayei Sarah*, which discusses the Jewish covenant of improving the world from one generation to the next—truly appropriate for Jordy. He has been a regular and dedicated participant in the Dorot program, which bridges generations through communication and commitment. He plans to continue this meaningful experience of reaching out to others.

Jordan wishes to thank his parents, rabbis, cantors, and tutor for their patience and support in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah.



## Jenna Wisch | November 10

Jenna Wisch began her formal Jewish education at the Carmel School in Hong Kong, which she attended until kindergarten. She has been a student at the Congregation School since *Gimel*, and plans to continue in the High School program.

An Eighth Grader at Trinity School, Jenna's passions include tennis, singing, skiing, reading and spending time with family and friends. She also loves traveling and learning about new cultures and people.

Jenna is participating in UJA's *Give a Mitzvah*, *Do a Mitzvah* program. Her project will fund the renovation of a bomb shelter and its transformation into a recreational center to be used in times of peace. The idea is to create a space that is safe, but also welcoming for children. She will also be volunteering at Mount Sinai's Children's Center.

Many thanks to Marian Turk, Cantor Lefkowitz and the P.A.S. clergy and teachers for helping Jenna prepare to become a Bat Mitzvah.



# Noah Landesberg | November 17

Noah has spent much of his first 13 years at Park Avenue Synagogue. As a student he first graduated from the Purple Room of the Early Childhood Center, and then the Congregational School, and now attends the Hebrew High School. He is an Eighth Grader at The Horace Mann School and plays on the Middle School basketball team.

Noah also enjoys baseball, soccer, tennis and hanging out with his friends. He is an avid fan of all Philadelphia sports teams (in allegiance with his dad, a native Philadelphian, and his mother, who went to Penn).

Noah actively participates in community service at Horace Mann and P.A.S. Last year, with the Dorot program, he visited senior citizens in their homes to keep them company. Noah would like to thank the P.A.S. clergy, teachers, family and friends for helping him prepare for this special day.

Maks L. Birnbach was honored by the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science at its 2007 New York Gala.

# WEERS WARRIOUS STREET

## Ella Landesberg | November 17

Ella Landesberg is currently attending The Horace Mann School where she is in the Eighth Grade. During her spare time, she likes to swim, ride roller coasters, hang out with friends and play with her dog. Ella also attended the Park Avenue Synagogue Early Childhood Center, is a graduate of the Congregational School, and is now attending the Hebrew High School.

Ella's first major act of charity was a very personal one, donating 10 inches of her hair to *Zichron Menachem*, The Israeli Association to Support Children with Cancer and Their Families, when she was ten years old. For her Mitzvah Project, Ella, her brother Noah, and their parents, are planning to make a donation to Hatzolah Israel in keeping with a family tradition. Ella is very happy to share this special event with her friends, family, teachers and clergy who are always there to guide her.



# Annabel Monsky | November 24

Annabel is a graduate of Park Avenue Synagogue ECC and is now a Seventh Grader at Fieldston. She is one of four children. Her brother, Harrison (age 16) and her sisters Gillian (age 10) and Caitlin (age 6) are also veterans of our ECC and all have attended P.A.S.C.S.

Annabel goes to Camp Fernwood in Maine with Gillian, where her favorite activity is wakeboarding. She also loves basketball.

She manages her two younger sisters adroitly, giving them advice on fashion, Scrabble and all matters. Her brother, who was Bar Mitzvah at P.A.S. in 2003, receives her advice as well. Annabel keeps up with her grandparents, traveling to Sunbury, PA and Jacksonville, FL during various vacations to see them. Her great, great grandfather, John Ross, was Chief Rabbi of Belfast and wrote a book titled "The Jewish Conception of Immortality."



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# Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

Steven Alden, on the loss of his mother, Sylvia Hochman Alden;

Florence Lapidus, on the loss of her husband, Alexander Lapidus;

Robert Rosenberg, on the loss of his stepfather, Phillip Schafferman;

Ramie Silbert, on the loss of her sister, Rita Nelson;

Karen Spector, on the loss of her mother, Rita Shapiro, widow of George Shapiro, former Chairman of the Board.

Note: if you have family news to share with the congregation, please contact Lynn Schneider at the synagogue office: 212-369-2600 or lschneider@pasyn.org

### Welcome to P.A.S.

Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:

Mr. and Mrs. Lance Baraker

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Barkan

Mr. Leonard Chazen and Ms. Linda Rappaport

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Chook

Drs. Edward and Betsy Cohen

Ms. Ellen Cole

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Drucker

Mr. Michael Du Boff

Mr. and Mrs. Marc Ellenbogen

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Frankel

Mr. Daniel Ganitsky and Ms. Elizabeth DeKoven

Mr. and Mrs. David Gutstadt

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Harris

Mr. and Mrs. Brad Jacobs

Dr. and Mrs. Brian Jacob

Dr. H. Jeffrey Katz and Ms. Ginny Kleinstein Katz

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Kaufman

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Kaufman

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Keller

Mr. Richard Levy and Ms. Hillary Blumenthal Levy

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Michaels

Ms. Cynthia Sharp Myers

Mr. and Mrs. Ethan Orlinsky

Mr. Louis Paul and Dr. Audrey Paul

**Dr. David Pearce** 

Mr. and Mrs. Cary Pollock

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Posner

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rubin

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schenk

Mr. Sami Shaio

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith

Ms. Margo Spielberg

Mr. Michael Steinberg and Ms. Elizabeth Steinberg

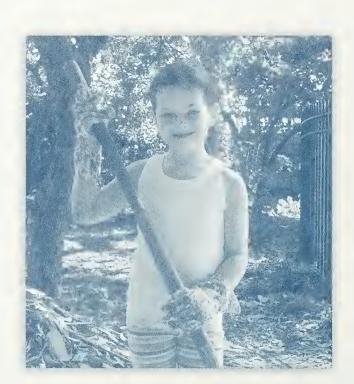
Mrs. Wendy Ull

Mr. Samuel Waxman

#### September 30, 2007

Our Tikkun Olam Committee and their families spent a wonderful day beautifying Carl Schurz Park, planting flowers, laying mulch, and raking leaves.







# Learn Hebrew on Mondays Is @

#### Siddur Hebrew—Level I—Beginners

Mondays, November 5, 12, 19 and 26 | 6:30-7:30 pm | Dina Mann, Instructor

No knowledge of Hebrew necessary

#### Siddur Hebrew—Level II—Intermediate

Mondays, 6:30-7:30 pm | Sarah Gribetz, Instructor

#### **Conversational Hebrew for Travelers**

Mondays, November 5, 12, 19 and 26 | 6:30-7:30 pm | Andi Meiseles, Instructor

A mini-Ulpan course for those going on the P.A.S. 125th Anniversary Trip to Israel and/or for all interested in learning to speak Modern Hebrew. No previous knowledge necessary.

# Modern Hebrew for Intermediate and Advanced Students

Mondays, November 5, 12, 19 and 26 | 7:30-8:30 pm | Varda Hubara, Instructor

All courses listed above require advance registration and payment. \$50/ per trimester for members \$75/ per trimester for non-members



#### Moses/Moshe Rabeinu

Mondays, November 5, 12, 19  $\mid$  8:00-9:30 pm Rabbi Joseph A. Brodie, Instructor  $\mid$  \$  $\bigcirc$ 

Did Moses himself write the Torah "lines?" Can we read between them? Join us for lively discussions as we explore the Exodus text together to see Moses' development as law giver, judge, shaker and mover, parent, husband and son-in-law in his transition to becoming the Bible's pre-eminent personality.



#### **Evening Book Discussion Group**

Monday, November 12 | 8:00 pm | No charge

The Evening Book Discussion Group meets monthly for thoughtful discussion of significant and interesting books. This month, we will discuss "Scribblers on the Roof," an anthology of contemporary short stories that includes both established masters and the newest generation of gifted storytellers. All are welcome to join us. Contact Pat Davidson, at alpat120@aol.com for more information.



EXPLORE THIS THEME WITH RABBI STERN

#### "What Do American Jews Believe?"

Tuesday mornings, November 6, 13, 20, and 27 | 11:00 am
In a memorable symposium, Commentary magazine asked 47 modern
Jewish thinkers "What Do American Jews Believe?" Rabbi Kenneth
Stern is currently using this symposium as the text for his course
on Jewish thought and practice—"Tuesday Topics." The course is
conducted in an informal roundtable setting in the Rothschild Library.
It is sponsored by the Sisterhood and is open to all members of P.A.S.
Don't hesitate to drop in and sample a class.

No charge

#### Raising Your Jewish Child

Wednesday, November 14 (end of first trimester) | 10-30-11:30 am Sarah Gribetz, Lisa Samick and Dina Mann, instructors | \$ © This new nine-session class is geared for parents of children of varying ages, from infants and toddlers to pre-schoolers and school aged children. Sessions will cover the basics of home rituals, including celebrating Shabbat and holidays, bedtime and meals, as well as ideas of how best to integrate as a family into communal and synagogue life. All backgrounds are welcome. There are no right answers; there can't be too many questions!

Free of charge to those enrolled in HaMishpachah Sheli.

\$ © Open enrollment to all members at a cost of \$75 for the series.



#### P.A.S. Friends of JTS Home Study

#### Thursday, November 15 7:30 pm

The Park Avenue Synagogue Friends of JTS invites all to a home study led by Dr. Amy Kalmanofsky, Assistant Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages at JTS. Her topic will be "Fatal Attractions: The Problem of Desire in the Hebrew Bible." Dr. Kalmanofsky's research interests include feminist and literary criticism of the Bible and biblical theology. She is a contributor to the forthcoming "Women's Commentary on the Torah" and the forthcoming volume "A Question of Sex: Gender and Difference in the Hebrew Bible." Her article, "Israel's Baby: Horror and Childbirth in the Biblical Prophets," will appear shortly in "Biblical Interpretation." Last year Dr. Kalmanofsky received the List College Teacher of the Year award.

**For further information,** please contact the synagogue office at 212-369-2600 or Joan Schreiber, jschreiber@verizon.net and/or Wendy Slavin, WendySaex@aol.com.





#### Lunch 'n' Learn

Ongoing Thursdays except Thanksgiving | 11:00 am-1:00 pm Members of the Clergy and Education Department, Instructors Meet others and share a learning experience with fellow congregants and the synagogue's professional leadership. Topics are varied. Bring a kosher dairy lunch; coffee will be served.

No charge



NEW THIS YEAR!

#### Parashat HaShavua

Ongoing Thursdays except Thanksgiving | 6:30-7:30 pm
Join the clergy and education staff as they lead you in a personal and engaging look at the weekly portion of the Torah...no background needed, just a curious mind and a yen to learn together.

No charge

© For more info. or to register for any of these classes, contact the Department of Lifelong Learning, at 212-369-2600 ext. 140, or llys@pasyn.org

#### P.A.S. and the Depression, Part II:

# The Arrival of Milton Steinberg and David Putterman

#### By Laurie Harris, Co-Chair, Archives Committee

1933 was another important year in the history of P.A.S. The year started without clergy, and with fears that the bank would not renew the \$250,000 mortgage on the synagogue building completed in 1927. A congregant, Jack Maltz, later reminisced about those times in letters written in the 1950s. "Following the Depression, after the resignation of Rabbi Schulman, synagogue meetings were held at regular intervals, and there usually were about 30 people present. When the regular business was concluded, we were plagued with the budget. The interest on the mortgage and an assortment of bills had to be paid: the organist, the choir, the printer, the caretaker, the Religious School staff, etc. The money was raised in the following manner: A speaker would rise and say 'I'll pay \$25 if anybody will match me.' He was matched. Others would do likewise, until the budget for the month was balanced."

Despite financial woes, a search began for new clergy, and Jack Maltz recollected, "There were a number of rabbis who aspired to the pulpit left vacant by Rabbi Schulman. For months, I attended the Friday night services and got a rabbinical education. In an audition that lasted an hour, he had to present his personality, his wisdom, and his learning in the law. Cantors of every shade of voice appeared, too."

Rabbi Judah Nadich delivered his first sermon at P.A.S. in 1933, and in a series of lectures he gave after he retired he recalled that sermon and the history of the hiring of Rabbi Milton Steinberg. He said, "Congregations in need of clergy, then, as now, were assisted by the rabbinical associations and rabbinical schools in identifying job candidates. The Board of Trustees of the Synagogue sent the Executive Secretary, Emanuel (Manny) Rosenthal to the rabbinical school to discuss the opening with the head of the Seminary. Following his instructions to take the bus, Mr. Rosenthal went to the then two-way Fifth Avenue, but instead of

taking the bus that went downtown to the Reform rabbinical seminary, he took the bus uptown. After a while, he approached the driver and asked him where he should get off for the rabbinical school. The driver said that he knew there was a rabbinical seminary at 122nd Street and Broadway, and he would tell Mr. Rosenthal when to get off."

Rabbi Nadich continued "Mr. Rosenthal came into the Jewish Theological Seminary, and the receptionist directed him to the Provost of the Seminary at that time, a young man named Dr. Louis Finkelstein (who subsequently became Chancellor of the Seminary). Manny Rosenthal proceeded to tell Dr. Finkelstein that the Park Avenue Synagogue on the east side of Manhattan had a vacant pulpit and would like to have candidates sent so that the congregation could choose a suitable rabbi. Dr. Finkelstein, as he later told me, was shocked. A Reform congregation looking for a Conservative rabbi? Since at that time there was no Conservative congregation on the Upper East Side, he was not going to miss this opportunity."

When Manny Rosenthal gave his report at the next meeting of the officers, and they heard he had met with Dr. Louis Finkelstein, they knew, of course, that he had visited the "wrong" seminary. However, after sending Mr. Rosenthal out again to the correct address, they decided to interview both Reform and Conservative candidates. "They would have a Reform rabbi on the pulpit one Shabbat, and a Conservative rabbi the following week."

Judah Nadich was a freshman at JTS when Dr. Finkelstein asked him to do the Seminary a favor. "We have a man for that pulpit, Milton Steinberg, and I am sure he will win that pulpit without question. He's a wonderful candidate, a brilliant rabbi, and speaks magnificently. But this coming Saturday, I don't have anyone to send them, and I don't want the Reform rabbis to have an extra chance. Therefore, I'm asking you

to go."

Rabbi Nadich told of walking from the Seminary to Park Avenue Synagogue on Shabbat, and since the leadership knew he wasn't a job candidate, delivering a sermon to a very small audience. "No one asked me to have lunch, and I walked back to the Seminary on 122nd St., but Dr. Finkelstein was right." Milton Steinberg "...outshone all the other candidates. He was elected the first Conservative rabbi of what had been until now a Reform synagogue."

From the minutes of the congregational meetings in December 1932, it is clear that there was much dissension about the Board's decision not to renew the contract of Rabbi Gabriel Schulman after 14 years. The finances of Park Avenue Synagogue during the Depression certainly could justify the decision. In fact, Simon Noveck, former P.A.S. Rabbi and Assistant Rabbi to Milton Steinberg, in his book "Milton Steinberg, Portrait of a Rabbi," indicated that Rabbi Steinberg accepted a salary cut to take the job, because he wanted to return to New York City. However, another reason for the change in the rabbinate was the lack of success in attracting new members since the new sanctuary opened in 1927. According to Rabbi Noveck, in his listing of the job opening, Dr. Louis Finkelstein described P.A.S. as "a small semi-Reform congregation whose 'free-lance' rabbi (Rabbi Schulman, age 52) had resigned. For some time, its dwindling membership had been searching for a 'dynamic young rabbi' who would be able to 'revitalize' the congregation." Rabbi Steinberg was 29 years old when hired.

Joseph Howard Katz, former Chairman of the Board, recalled being told that Milton Steinberg's conditions for accepting the job were that the congregation agree to three things: "the wearing of head coverings, tallitot, and adopting a new prayer book of Rabbi Steinberg's choice. Simon Noveck added a fourth, the ending of solicitations

of money on Shabbat. That was only the beginning of his impact on the congregation." Clearly, the congregation with its new clergy still faced hurdles. Fortunately, the loan was renewed; foreclosing on a synagogue was not good publicity for any bank. However, there was no money to implement any of the new programs proposed by Rabbi Steinberg. Congregation President Jacob Friedman made his Kol Nidre Appeal in 1933 to address the ongoing needs. "We have worked very hard to give you spiritual leaders that you could be proud of, who I am sure will put the synagogue on a higher plane and bring new members through their leadership." Mr. Friedman then discussed the prevalent economic woes. "Don't justify a meager donation because of bad business and times may not be as good as they were. Don't forget the National Recovery Act is working. The Depression is over, better times are here. Show your new rabbi the kind of congregation he has."

Milton Steinberg wasted no time in showing the congregation what kind of rabbi it had. He successfully revamped the Shabbat and holiday services, introducing a more traditional worship service. He gave Cantor Putterman "freedom in all musical arrangements, encouraged him to introduce new melodies, and went to great lengths to enhance his status in the congregation." At Rabbi Steinberg's installation in September 1933, Dr. Louis Finkelstein spoke of "the tide of hatred now engulfing world Jewry, noting that what was coming to the surface in Germany was not a battle against the Jew, but against religion and western civilization." He warned of "a world war in the making." In his response Rabbi Steinberg proposed that "the great peril to Judaism lies not from without, but from within. The synagogue can reeducate the Jew and arouse him to participate in the great causes of Jewish life. But since Park Avenue only had 120 dues-paying members at that time, he was convinced that some of the unaffiliated Jews in Yorkville such as physicians at Mount Sinai, lawyers, wealthy businessmen, as well as less affluent professionals, could be won over to Jewish life. They had time for the theater and other activities of the city; and the rise of Nazism in Europe, and emergence of anti-Semitism in the U.S. might make them receptive to Jewish identification."

Rabbi Steinberg's membership plan consisted of "forming small study circles which met in the homes of the more de-



Rabbi Milton Steinberg

voted congregants to which non-affiliated friends could be invited. Several groups were soon organized under the guidance of the synagogue board and encouraged by President Jacob Friedman. Night after night the new rabbi made his way up and down Park and Fifth Avenues and over to the West Side, leading discussions on current Jewish problems and aspects of Jewish history and religion."

Simon Noveck assessed that "Steinberg was very effective at these sessions. His encyclopedic knowledge, his liking for people, and his collection of humorous stories helped him. When someone expressed interest in joining the congregation, Rabbi

Steinberg would personally call on him and explain the cost, \$60 per year. For a few years, it was almost like house-to-house canvassing. In 5 years membership grew to 350 families, and diversified from the original Germans to include Eastern Europeans, with a number of prominent citizens. However, Milton Steinberg had a father with socialist leanings and though conscious of the 'natural curiosity about celebrities,' was proud of preserving a community feeling in the congregation and avoiding glorification of the economically or socially important."

Former P.A.S. Rabbi Harlan Wechsler, in his research for the 100th anniversary wrote: "1933 was a year of overwhelming significance for the P.A.S. Within that year, Rabbi Milton Steinberg was called to the pulpit and Cantor David J. Putterman became cantor of the congregation. Beginning together, these two spiritual leaders led the congregation swiftly to a place of national prominence. Milton Steinberg was one of the leading intellectuals of his day and published widely, including books like "The Making of a Modern Jew" and "Basic Judaism," which became standard works in the study of Judaism today. For this year's Great Synagogue Read-In, we will read "As a Driven Leaf," Rabbi Steinberg's classic story that takes place during the Talmudic era, about the sage Elisha ben Abuyah, who wrestles with universal questions of tradition and science.

From all reports, Milton Steinberg relished the position of pulpit rabbi and his role in the growth of P.A.S. According to Simon Noveck, "as P.A.S. grew, Steinberg felt he grew as a preacher, teacher, and in his understanding of people. He took an unknown congregation completely overshadowed by nearby Reform congregations Temple Emanu-El and Central Synagogue and Orthodox congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, and made it into an important institution."

To be continued...

Our sages said: "From all my students I can learn, and when you teach—you learn."

חז"ל אמרו: "מכל תלמידי השכלתי המתוך שאתה מלמד – אתה למד."

# Being a Role Model

Ron Koas, Education Director

t all started at the B'nai Mitzvah program we did last year for *Kita Vav*—Sixth Grade. The B'nai Mitzvah students were asked to do something for the community, something that they enjoyed doing that could be of service to others. The youngsters had countless wonderful ideas, and I was very impressed and proud.

I went back home and asked myself: "How can I ask students in *Kita Vav* to do something good for the community without asking my teachers to do the same?" They are supposed to be role models for our students. I had been in touch previously with the Israeli daily newspaper *Ma'ariv*, which was interested in developing a weekly supplement for the US. I decided to ask my teachers to join me in writing for a Hebrew newspaper to serve the Jewish – Israeli community in NY. "This is a commitment" I said. "But if our students can do it, then so can we."

Teachers began writing: poems, short stories, and articles on a variety of topics from politics to education. I wrote about Jewish education as well as current events in Israel. Then the idea hit me: let's use this as a vehicle for our students to express themselves in Hebrew! Teachers encouraged their students to write, and soon students from other schools such as Solomon Schechter and the Heschel School were sending in stories, too! Over time I became the editor of *Sham-Po*, which is published every Friday. It is great feeling to contribute to the community together with faculty and students in this way.

I would like to extend this wonderful opportunity to the entire congregation. If you want to write something about Judaism or Israel in Hebrew, feel free to send it to me.

# Rabbi Judah Nadich High School High School is in Full Swing; We're Preparing Our Thanksgiving Food Distribution

Rabbi Matthew A. Reimer, Director

ell, we are nearly two months into the term of Rabbi Judah Nadich High School, and I am starting to feel settled. Having the energy and joie de vivre of our high school students around certainly helps. Our Opening Event back in September with The Daily Show writer, Rob Kutner, was a huge success and we've been moving along quite well ever since. The High School also had an opportunity to visit with P.A.S.'s sofer during Sukkot in order to fill out our letter in the new Torah. Seeing how the process of writing a new Torah scroll actually happens gives Etz Chayim a whole new meaning.

This year's annual Food Pantry Thanksgiving food distribution (on Wednesday, November 21), is a wonderful opportunity to take the words of our tradition – whether from *Pirkei Avot's* charge of *tikkun olam* or Deuteronomy:15—and put them into action.

This massive undertaking is one of the signature Social Action events of our High School students, and each year they work tirelessly and selflessly, handing out turkeys, bags of food and plenty of smiles to go around.

Many of us look forward to Thanksgiving as a great long weekend, a good opportunity to get out of town—to ski, to visit family, to travel—and we know that we all have so much to be thankful for. But to be here for this truly amazing afternoon—to see the faces of our students—current and alum, as much as those of our clients, is a Thanksgiving blessing like no other.

If you would like to volunteer to help on the distribution or packing day, or to help prepare the bags on Sunday, November 18, please contact Rabbi Matthew Reimer at 212-369-2600 ext. 141 or mreimer@pasyn.org.

# **Camp Keshet Priority Registration**

Deadline for P.A.S. members and for returning campers ends **December 14**. **For more information,** contact us at 212-369-2600 ext. 153 or at camp@pasyn.org.



#### **Tot Kabbalat Shabbat**

Friday, November 2 | 5:15-6:00 pm

Join us for Friday evening services for toddlers and preschool aged children, parents, grandparents and friends.

# November Birthday Celebration

Friday, November 9 | 6:15 pm

Bring Shabbat into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at Park Avenue Synagogue. All children with November birthdays will be called up to the bimah and honored at our Birthday Celebration Service. Come as a family and celebrate.

**Contact** Rabbi Kenneth Stern's office for more information.

## Pajama Havdalah

Saturday, November 17 5:30-6:15 pm

Back by popular demand—this program is perfect for all young children—infants, toddlers, preschoolers—even *Gan* and older! Come in your pj's and say goodbye to Shabbat with story, prayer and song....

**Friday, November 2** 21 Cheshvan 5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, November 3 22 Cheshvan Parashat Chayei Sara 9:15 am Sanctuary Service Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Schecter, Son of Marcia and Ronald Schecter 9:30 am Havurah Service 10:15 am Jr. Congregation 11:15 am Nitzanim Service

**Tuesday, November 6** 25 Cheshvan Election Day
No Congregational School
Book Fair
ECC Parent Conferences

**Wednesday, November 7** 26 Cheshvan Book Fair

**Thursday, November 8** 27 Cheshvan Book Fair

Friday, November 9 28 Cheshvan Kristallnacht Remembrance 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, November 10 29 Cheshvan Parashat Toldos 9:15 am Sanctuary Service Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Wisch, Daughter of Debi and Steven Wisch 10:15 am Jr. Congregation 11:15 am Tot Shabbat 11:15 am Nitzanim Service

**Sunday, November 11** 1 Kislev Rosh Chodesh Kislev Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing! Kadima Event

Wednesday, November 14 4 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 10:30 am Raising Your Jewish Child \$ © 4:00 pm CS Hay Jewish Museum Visit

**Thursday, November 15** 5 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort

**Friday, November 16** 6 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath Saturday, November 17 7 Kislev

Parashat Vayetzei
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
B'nai Mitzvah of Ella and Noah Landesberg,
Children of Amy and David Landesberg
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:30 pm Pajama Havdalah Service

Sunday, November 18 8 Kislev
Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort
10:00 am-2:00 pm Vicki K. Wimpfheimer
Mitzvah Day

Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin Purim Spiel Sign-ups

**Monday, November 19** 9 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

**Tuesday, November 20** 10 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin

Wednesday, November 21 11 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin No School Food Pantry Turkey Distribution

**Thursday, November 22** 12 Kislev Thanksgiving No School

**Friday, November 23** 13 Kislev Light Candles: 4:15 pm No School 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service Welcome Back College Students

Saturday, November 24 14 Kislev Parashat Vayishlach 9:15 am Sanctuary Service Bat Mitzvah of Annabel Monsky, Daughter of Jennifer and John Monsky 10:15 am Jr. Congregation 11:15 am Nitzanim Service

Sunday, November 25 15 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin Sofer with College Students

**Tuesday, November 27** 17 Kislev CS Vav Jewish Museum Visit

**Wednesday, November 28** 18 Kislev CS Hay Jewish Museum Visit

**Friday, November 30** 20 Kislev Light Candles: 4:12 pm 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

If you have much, give much; if you have little, be not afraid to give according to that little;

for you lay up a good treasure for yourself against the day of need. —Tobit 4.8-10

#### **Bible Fund**

Ronnie & David Parker, honor of David's "milestone" birthday.

#### **Bikur Cholim**

Harry Krieger, in honor of the birthday of Irene Sommerfeld.
Barrie & Leah Modlin, in memory of Adele Habousha.
Barrie & Leah Modlin, in memory of Helen Rosen Pollak, mother of Frank Pollak.

Barbara Weinstein & Louis Bernstein, in memory of Faye Mintzer, mother of Joan Lefkowitz.

#### **Congregational School Fund**

Lynn Schneider, with congratulations and highest regard to Susan Edelstein, for her honor at Simhat Torah and for all that she does.

#### **Vivian Finkel Education Fund**

Ruth Levenson, in memory of Milton Finkel. Barbara & Jim Robbins, in memory of Milton Finkel.

#### **High School Food Pantry**

The Bass & Weinstein Families, in memory of Nancy Olinsky's father. Mark & Julia Gerstein, in memory of Sally Bryer.

Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz.

Jane Kreinik, in memory of her beloved father, Dennis Berman.

Ruth Levenson, in memory of Adele Habousha.

Joan & Sylvan Schefler, in memory of Adele Habousha.

Marissa Erin Solomon.

Henry Vogelstein, in memory of his beloved brother, Charles Vogelstein.

Barbara Weinstein & Louis Bernstein, in memory of Adele Habousha, mother of Nadine Habousha Cohen and Rochline Habousha.

Meryl E. Wiener & Barry A. Bryer, in memory of Adele Habousha, mother of Nadine Habousha Cohen.

#### **Library Fund**

Dr. & Mrs. Sidney Nearenberg, in honor of the birth of our granddaughter Sara Tess, born on August 23rd, daughter of Dr. Jamie Ullman & Mark Nearenberg.

Julius Paige, in honor of his birthday.

Barbara Weinstein & Louis Bernstein, in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

# PLAZA JEWISH COMMUNITY CHAPEL, INC.

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Andrew Fier, President

#### **Liturgical Music Fund**

Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Adele Habousha.

Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Nathan Roth.

Laurie & Maury Harris, in memory of Henya Sekons.

Barbara Weinstein & Louis Bernstein, in honor of Cantor David & Joan Lefkowitz becoming grandparents.

#### Rabbi Judah Nadich High School Fund

Bea Kaplan, Eugene & Steve Kaplan, in loving memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

Ruth Levenson, in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

Meryl E. Wiener & Barry A. Bryer, in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

#### **Prayer Book Fund**

Ellen Braverman, in memory of her beloved father, Arthur Braverman. Harriet & Herb Feiwel, in memory of Helen Rosen Pollak.

Heidi, Rob & Max Silverstone, in honor of their beloved son and brother, Michael Silverstone becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Heidi, Rob & Michael Silverstone, in honor of their beloved son and brother, Max Silverstone.

The Sisterhood of Park Avenue Synagogue, in memory of Judge Louis I. Kaplan, beloved husband of Beatrice Kaplan.

#### **Welfare Fund**

Renee Ascher, in memory of her beloved mother, Betty Adler. Dr. Samuel Katz, in honor of his birthday.

#### Synagogue Offerings

Harris Amster, in memory of Fred & Anna Amster.

Daniel Bernstein, in memory of his beloved father, Arthur Harold Bernstein.

Dr. Ronald Bland, in memory of his beloved mother, Rose Bland.

Ruth Boody, in memory of her beloved mother, Sylvia R. Jacobs.

Katherine Chavkin, in memory of her beloved mother Janet Showe.

Sherry Cohen, in memory of Judge Louis I. Kaplan, beloved husband of Beatrice Kaplan.

David Cook, in honor of his birthday.

Paul & Anne Corwin, in memory of Adele Habousha, mother of Nadine Habousha Cohen.

Mr. & Mrs. Morton Davis, in honor of their anniversary.

Roland Del Cid, in honor of his birthday.

Dr. Juliet Diller, in memory of her beloved father, Meyer Cooper. Susan Erlich.

William Felder, in memory of his beloved father, Edward Felder.

Alan & Judy Feldman, in honor of the 10th wedding anniversary of Mark & Jennifer Feldman.

Ethel Feuer, in memory of her beloved father, Frank Rubinstein.

Mark Fraier, with thanks to Michael Brenner and Les Agisim for their dedication and service to Park Avenue Synagogue.

Eugenie Fromer, in memory of her beloved brother, Leonard Bergman.

Dr. Iona Ginsburg, in memory of her beloved father, Abraham Eugene Horowitz.

Dr. James Goldman, in memory of his beloved mother, Katherine Goldman.



Dr. Linda Grad, in memory of Juliette Wolf and Dr. Gary Grad.

Charles Greenberg, in honor of his Aliyah. Nancy & Joel Hirschtritt, in memory of Hon. Louis I. Kaplan.

Nancy & Joel Hirschtritt, in memory of Helen Pollak.

Helen Judlowe, in memory of her beloved mother, Evelyn Lautenberg.

Dr. Neal Kaplan, in honor of his birthday. Marilyn Katz, in memory of her beloved husband, Robert Katz.

Rosamond Kaufman, in memory of her beloved mother, Esther Van Poznak.

Gershon Kekst, in honor of his High Holiday honor.

Dorothy Ann Kirsch, in memory of her beloved father, Edward Tejw.

Amy Landesberg, in memory of her beloved brother, Paul Ebin.

Alexander & Lee Leon, in loving memory of Faye Mintzer, mother of Joan Lefkowitz.

Phyllis Leventhal, in memory of her beloved mother, Gladys Braun.

Paul Levine, in honor of his High Holiday honor. David Levitan, in memory of his beloved father, Shlomo Yehuda Levitan.

Marian Levitt, in memory of David Revasch. Marian Levitt, in honor of her High Holiday honor.

Marian Levitt, in honor of her birthday. Judith & David Lewittes, in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

Larry Lurin, in memory of his beloved father, Philip Lurin.

Carol & Charles Mutterperl, in memory of Claire Minton.

Morris Orden, in memory of his beloved wife, Patricia Orden.

Dr. Morris M. Podolsky, in memory of his beloved father, Dr. Harold M. Podolsky.

Sandra Rosen, in memory of her beloved mother, Gussie Ratzkin.

Dr. & Mrs. Seligman Rosenberg, in honor of their anniversary.

Luise & Stephen Rosoff, in honor of the milestone birthday of Bernard Breslin.

Arnold L. & Lite Sabin, in memory of Milton Finkel, beloved husband of Vivian Finkel.

Melanie Schneider, in memory of Adele Habousha.

Lori Schreiber, in memory of her beloved father, Leo Appelbaum.

Michael Shaw, in memory of his beloved father, Louis Shawrootz. Robert Silverstone, in honor of his birthday. Jacqueline Simmon, in memory of her beloved father, Meyer Greif.

Florence Solomon, in memory of her beloved husband, Dr. Nathan A. Solomon.

Vivian Storper, in memory of her beloved father, Joshua Schwartz.

Michael Taubin, in memory of his beloved father, Skee Taubin.

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Toledano.

Jacqueline Wahl, in honor of her Rosh Hashanah honor.

Dr. Renee Waldinger, in honor of her birthday. Selma Weintraub, in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.

Meryl Wiener, in memory of her beloved father, Meyer Wiener.

Irene Winkelman, in memory of her beloved sister, Ruth Winkelman Wender.

Annette Zimmerman, in memory of her beloved father, Abraham Fortgang.

Roberta Zuckerman, in memory of her beloved father, Morris E. Greebel.

# Tikkun Olam Committee for Community Outreach

Ellen W. Kaplan



(212) 427-7912



### Celebrating a Simcha?

A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, or anything else for which you are grateful? Sponsor a breakfast *Kiddush* any weekday after our Morning Minyan.

**Contact** Lynn Schneider at the synagogue for more information, 212-369-2600.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Dr. Albert and Phyllis L. Cornell

# **Bikur Cholim Caring Committee**

Do you know someone ill, elderly, or homebound who would benefit from compassionate personal attention? The Park Avenue Synagogue *Bikur Cholim* Caring Committee reaches out to those in need through telephone calls, visits, and holiday packages. The Caring Committee is comprised of trained volunteers who are committed to providing hands-on support and companionship to those valued members of our congregation. All interactions are confidential.

To arrange for this mitzvah, please call Rabbi Lincoln's office at 212-369-2600 ext. 120.

#### Calendar of Events November 2007

**Thursday, November 1** 20 Cheshvan 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 6:30 pm Parashat HaShavua \$ ©

Friday, November 2 21 Cheshvan Light Candles: 5:34 pm 5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service 7:15 pm Minyan Maalot

Saturday, November 3 22 Cheshvan

Parashat Chayei Sara
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Schecter,
Son of Marcia and Ronald Schecter
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 4 23 Cheshvan

Monday, November 5 24 Cheshvan
11:00 am Sisterhood Book Discussion
6:30 pm Adult Hebrew Levels I, II, Conv. \$ ©
7:30 pm Modern Hebrew \$ ©
Book Fair Opening

8:00 pm Moses Class/Rabbi Brodie \$ ©

Tuesday, November 6 25 Cheshvan
Election Day

No Congregational School

**Book Fair** 

ECC Parent Conferences
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
7:00 pm Author Ruth Gruber Talk/Signing at
Book Fair

Wednesday, November 7 26 Cheshvan Book Fair

7:00 pm Men's Club Book Fair Event: Dr. Charles Adés Fishman Talk/Sign

**Thursday, November 8** 27 Cheshvan Book Fair

11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 1:00 pm Sisterhood Museum Visit: Jewish Daily Forward \$ © 6:30 pm Parashat HaShavua \$ © Friday, November 9 28 Cheshvan

Light Candles: 4:26 pm Kristallnacht Remembrance 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service Children's Birthday Service

Saturday, November 10 29 Cheshvan

Parashat Toldos
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Wisch,
Daughter of Debi and Steven Wisch
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 11 1 Kislev

Rosh Chodesh Kislev Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing! Kadima Event

Monday, November 12 2 Kislev 1:00 pm Sisterhood Jewish Museum visit \$ © 6:30 pm Adult Hebrew Levels I, II, Conv. \$ © 7:30 pm Modern Hebrew \$ ©

7:30 pm Moonbeams

8:00 pm Evening Book Discussion Group 8:00 pm Moses Class/Rabbi Brodie \$ ©

Tuesday, November 13 3 Kislev

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1:00 pm Sisterhood: Isaac Bashevis Singer film6:15 pm Men's Club Board7:00 pm Israel Speaker: Judith Edelman Green

Wednesday, November 14 4 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 10:30 am Raising Your Jewish Child \$ © 4:00 pm CS Hay Jewish Museum Visit 7:00 pm Film Night: "The Golem" 8:00 pm Hearing Men's Voices ©

**Thursday, November 15** 5 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 6:30 pm Parashat HaShavua \$ © 7:30 pm Healing Service 7:30 pm P.A.S./JTS Home Study ©

Friday, November 16 6 Kislev

Light Candles: 4:20 pm Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service: Welcoming the Sabbath

Saturday, November 17 7 Kislev

Parashat Vayetzei
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
B'nai Mitzvah of Ella and Noah Landesberg,
Children of Amy and David Landesberg
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha
5:30 pm Pajama Havdalah Service

Sunday, November 18 8 Kislev Mitzvah Day Drop-Off and Sort 10:00 am-2:00 pm Vicki K. Wimpfheimer Mitzvah Day

Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin Purim Spiel Sign-ups

Monday, November 19 9 Kislev
Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin
6:30 pm Adult Hebrew Levels I, II, Conv. \$ ©
7:30 pm Modern Hebrew \$ ©
8:00 pm Moses Class/Rabbi Brodie

Tuesday, November 20 10 Kislev
Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
1:00 pm Sisterhood Film: Early US Jewish History
7:00 pm Israel Orientation

Wednesday, November 21 11 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin No School Food Pantry Turkey Distribution

**Thursday, November 22** 12 Kislev Thanksgiving

Offices Closed No School

Friday, November 23 13 Kislev

Light Candles: 4:15 pm Offices Closed No School 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service Welcome Back College Students

# P.A.S Is Just a Klik Away

Park Avenue Synagogue's website, **www.pasyn.org** has the latest news, events, and times for any synagogue-related activity. And it also has lots of information about classes, programs, events, people, organizations, and meetings. Sign up for e-mail notifications! Communicate with our clergy and staff!

# WE EEE 1 12 2 1 1 6 9 0 1 2 6 3 1

### Rothschild Library Recommended Recent Acquisitions

Saturday, November 24 14 Kislev

Parashat Vayishlach
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Annabel Monsky,
Daughter of Jennifer and John Monsky
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, November 25 15 Kislev Forging Your Link: Rabbi Druin Sofer with College Students

**Monday, November 26** 16 Kislev 6:30 pm Adult Hebrew Levels I, II, Conv. \$ © 7:30 pm Modern Hebrew \$ ©

**Tuesday, November 27** 17 Kislev CS Vav Jewish Museum Visit 11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern 12:00 pm Sisterhood Exec Board 7:00 pm Israel Orientation

**Wednesday, November 28** 18 Kislev CS Hay Jewish Museum Visit 6:30 pm Sipping Singles

**Thursday, November 29** 19 Kislev 11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn 6:30 pm Parashat HaShavua \$ ©

**Friday, November 30** 20 Kislev Light Candles: 4:12 pm 6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

#### Mincha

Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm. Saturdays as noted.

#### Daily Minyanim

Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am, except as noted.

Information is subject to change.

Confirm at www.pasyn.org or with the office.

See page 3 for Religious Services and page 19 for Children's and School Programs.

#### "A Day at the Beach: a Novel"

by Helen Schulman
A brave look at the effect of 9/11 on a couple's relationship.

#### "The Reluctant Fundamentalist"

by Mohsin Hamid

A shocking novel depicting a moderate Muslim's decline into radicalism.

"The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit: My Family's Exodus from Old Cairo to the New World"

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by Lucette Lagnado

"The Accidental Empire: Israel and the Birth of the Settlements, 1967-1977"

by Gershom Gorenberg Recently featured on CNN's special "God's Warriors" with Christiane Amanpour.

"Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: 1776 to the Present"

by Michael B. Oren
A fun, shocking, fascinating history book.

#### ROTHSCHILD LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 12:00-6:30 pm | Wednesday: 12:00-8:00 pm Tuesday: 12:00-6:30 pm Thursday: 10:00am-6:30 pm

P.A.S. Gallery



# P.A.S. Timeline: Selections from our Archives

#### Through January 2008

This very special exhibition includes a timeline of Park Avenue Synagogue history, juxtaposing P.A.S. milestones with contemporary events in Jewish history, as well as significant events in NYC, American, and world history. The exhibit cases feature significant artifacts from the P.A.S. Archives collection. The Exhibition Committee, chaired by Jean Bloch Rosensaft, working closely with Archives Co-Chairs Laurie Harris and Marcia Stone, has been collecting and organizing this material for over a year. The show begins with the history of the founding congregations, and then surveys the decades from the 1920s through the 125th Anniversary year. The display of documents, photographs, and artifacts illuminates the sequential development of the synagogue's three structures and the role of contemporary art commissions for the Adolph Gottlieb stained glass windows and Nathan Rapoport façade sculptures. The exhibition highlights the generations of clergy who have led our synagogue with commitment and vision and their distinguished contributions to P.A.S., the Jewish community, and world history. It features the special role that Park Avenue Synagogue has played in the renaissance of Jewish music through the commissioning of liturgical music from the 1940s to the present day.

# Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin NOVEMBER 2007

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David H. Lincoln, Senior Rabbi
Kenneth A. Stern, Rabbi
David Lefkowitz, Senior Cantor
Nancy Abramson, Cantor
Amy A.B. Bressman, Chairman of the Board
Menachem Z. Rosensaft, President
Beryl P. Chernov, Executive Director
Ron Koas, Education Director
Carol Hendin, Director, Early Childhood Center
Sarah Gribetz, Director, Lifelong Learning
Rabbi Matthew A. Reimer, Director, Rabbi Judah Nadich High School and Youth Programs
Lisa Samick, Director, Camp Keshet
Patricia Rich, P.A.S. Bulletin Editor
Lawrence Conley/4W, Graphic Design
Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, Inc., Funeral Directors

50 East 87th Street, New York, NY 10128 | Synagogue Office 212-369-2600 | www.psyn.org

#### A Look Ahead

#### SAVE THE DATE WEG Chanukah Party

#### Thursday, December 6 7:30-9:00 pm 6

What comes after Sukkot? Why Chanukah, of course! And what do we do on Chanukah? Why we have a party! And who comes to the party? Why grown-ups in party clothes, eating grown-up food and drinking grown-up drinks while being hilariously entertained.... Watch for more details in the next issue of the Bulletin. Reservations required and accepted on a first come, first served basis.

#### A Historic Weekend Our Shabbaton

#### January 25-26, 2008

We will dedicate our newly-inscribed Torah! After we observe Havdalah we will spend an exciting evening together! We will hear Chancellor Arnold Eisen of JTS and Rabbi David Ellenson of HUC-JIR! We will sing and pray with Craig Taubman! We will dance, we will eat, we will drink...we will celebrate...we will make history!

#### Congregational Shabbat Dinner | Friday, December 7 | after Services | \$ @

Special farewell to congregants who are traveling to Israel.

Our special speaker will be Hasia Israeli, Director General, Beth Hatefutsoth, The Nahum Goldman Museum of the Jewish Diaspora. She will speak about "Shared History, Shared Destiny: Jewish Peoplehood Re-defined."

Reservations required, \$35 person—e-mail llys@pasyn in the Lifelong Learning Department.